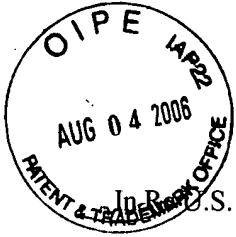


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**PATENT**  
**Attorney Docket No. 1110/93928**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application  
Applicant: Masamitsu KITAHASHI et al.  
Serial No.: 10/528,287  
Filed: March 16, 2005  
For: **POLISHING APPARATUS,  
POLISHING HEAD AND  
POLISHING METHOD**  
Examiner: Maurina T. Rachuba  
Art Unit: 3723

Confirmation No.: 6612

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is  
being deposited with the United Postal  
Service as first class mail in an envelope  
addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT,  
Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450.*

August 1, 2006

  
Gerald T. Shekleton Reg. No. 27,466

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449 that may be material to the examination of this application. The listed Documents are enclosed herewith. Also enclosed is the English translation of a German Office Action for the related German application.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

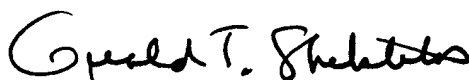
The cited document(s) disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the document(s) and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document(s) herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Attorney Docket No. 1110/93928  
Serial No.: 10/528,287  
Filed: March 16, 2005

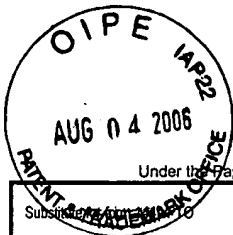
Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and document(s) recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,  
**WELSH & KATZ, LTD.**



Gerald T. Shekleton  
Registration No. 27,466

Dated: August 1, 2006  
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/528,287
		Filing Date	March 16, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Kitahashi et al.
		Art Unit	3723
		Examiner Name	Maurina T. Rachuba
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	1110/93928

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	6,168,684	01-02-2001	Mitsuhashi et al.	
	2	Pub. No. US 2001/0039172	11-08-2001	Kimura	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	3	DE 199 53 847	05-18-2000	Tokyo Seimitsu Co. Ltd (JP)		X

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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